

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-441 are pending in the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-88, 130-236, 272-375, and 417-441 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 89-92, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 118, 119, 122-125, 127, 128, 237-240, 242, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 254, 255, 259, 261, 263, 265-268, 270, 376-379, 381, 382, 386, 387, 391, 392, 396, 397, 402, 404-406, 410-412, 414, and 415 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsumpes U.S. Patent No. 6,442,241 (hereinafter "Tsumpes").

Claims 120, 121, 126, 129, 263, 264, 269, 271, 407, 408, 413, and 416 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Tsumpes in view of Motoyama et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0195982 A1 (hereinafter "Motoyama").

Telephonic Interview Summary

Applicants and the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during the telephonic interview of October 12, 2004. During the interview, the Examiner clarified the rejections and expressed that these

rejections may be overcome through a further amendment to more particularly define the user control interface in the claims.

Applicants' Reply

Claims 89-92, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 118, 119, 122-125, 127, 128, 237-240, 242, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 254, 255, 259, 261, 263, 265-268, 270, 376-379, 381, 382, 386, 387, 391, 392, 396, 397, 402, 404-406, 410-412, 414, and 415 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsumpes.

Claims 120, 121, 126, 129, 263, 264, 269, 271, 407, 408, 413, and 416 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsumpes in view of Motoyama.

The Examiner's rejection are respectfully traversed.

Claims 89, 237, and 376 have been amended to more particularly described the invention. No new subject matter has been added and the amendments are fully supported by the specification.

Applicants' invention, as defined by independent claims 89, 237, and 376 as amended, is a system or a method

for monitoring user premises. At least one sensor, at least one alarm output device, at least one user control interface, and a system controller connected to the at least one sensor, alarm output device, and user control interface are provided. At least one user control interface is located at the user premises and is connected to an external data network such as the Internet for sending and/or receiving data. Such data may include security data (e.g., for reporting security status of the premises to a central monitoring station) and non-security data such as electronic mail messages and web pages that are not related to security matters (see specification paragraphs 72 and 73). The user control interface enables a user at the user premises to interact with the system controller as well as the data. For example, the user may manipulate securities functions and/or send emails using the user control interface.

Tsumpes relates to an event notification system. One or more sensors and a controller, to which the sensors are connected, are placed at a monitored site. The controller detects changes in status at the sensors and reports the changes to a remotely-located central monitoring station (e.g., through a telephone network) (see column 4, line 56 to column 5, line 3). The central monitoring station automatically provides an event-specific

notification to one or more persons in response to being notified of the triggering event by the controller (see abstract). The central monitoring station provides, through an Internet Service Provider, an interactive website. A user may access the website, for example, using his own Internet-enabled personal computer, to customize various options associated with events to be monitored and notified (see column 5, lines 47-54).

The Examiner contends that Tsumpes discloses each and every feature of applicants' claims 89, 237, and 376. Applicants disagree and submit that Tsumpes at least fails to show or suggest a user control interface, located at the user premises and connected to the system controller and an external data network for sending and/or receiving data, where the user control interface enables a user at the user premises to interact with the system controller and the data sent to or received from the external data network, as defined by amended claims 89, 237, and 376.

The Examiner, in contending that Tsumpes shows the above-mentioned feature, points to the disclosure that a subscriber of Tsumpes' system "can access an interactive website 24 via the Internet." (see Office Action page 2) Applicants submit that this disclosure does not show or suggest a user control interface as required by amended

claims 89, 237, and 376. As described above, applicants' user control interface is an integrated component of the security system. Specifically, the user control interface is connect at the user premises to the system controller as well as the external data network. It enables the user at the user premises to interact with both security data and non-security data. In contrast, Tsumpes does not provide such an integrated user control interface. Rather, it provides a stand alone website through an ISP. A subscriber may only access Tsumpes' website, for example, using his own Internet-enabled personal computer or another suitable Internet-enabled device that is separate from the security system.

Accordingly, at least because Tsumpes fails to show or suggest a user control interface located at the user premises and connected to the system controller and an external data network for sending and/or receiving data, claims 89, 237, and 326, as amended, are patentable over Tsumpes.

As mentioned in applicants' previous reply, Motoyama is cited by the Examiner only for its alleged disclosure of a firewall. Without addressing whether or not Motoyama show a firewall, applicants respectfully submit that Motoyama does not show or suggest applicants' user

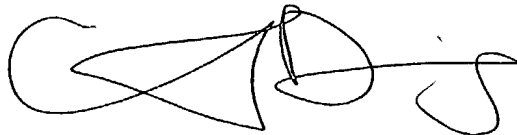
control interface that is located at the user premises and connected to the system controller and an external data network for sending and/or receiving data. Accordingly, claims 89, 237, and 376 are also allowable over the combination of Tsumpes and Motoyama.

Claims 90-129, 238-271, and 377-416 depend from claims 89, 237, and 326 and are therefore also patentable over Tsumpes and the combination of Tsumpes and Motoyama.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, applicants respectfully submit that applicants' claims 89-129, 237-271, and 376-416 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cathy Ding', written over a horizontal line.

Cathy Ding

Reg. No. 52,820
Agent for Applicants
FISH & NEAVE LLP
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1105
Tel.: (212) 596-9000